

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08

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R 131625Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8654

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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UNCLAS BRUSSELS 5218

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, BE, US

SUBJECT: VAN ELSLANDE STATEMENTS RE COPENHAGEN MEETING

1. FONMIN VAN ELSLANDE TOLD REPORTERS ON SEPT. 11 THAT HE WAS VERY HAPPY WITH THE RESULTS OF THE MEETING OF EC FOREIGN MINISTERS AT COPENHAGEN. EUROPE, HE SAID, HAS FINALLY DECIDED TO RESUME ITS MARCH TOWARD EUROPEAN UNION AND TO DEFINE AN IDENTITY IN ORDER TO UNDERTAKE A CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

2. VAN ELSLANDE NOTED WITH PLEASURE THE EVOLUTION OF THE FRENCH ATTITUDE, WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED TO REALIZATION THAT, IF FRANCE HELD TO A NEGATIVE POSITION, WEST GERMANY WOULD NOT
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STAND IDLY BY, AND THAT THE CONSEQUENCE COULD BE GRAVE FOR EUROPEAN COHESIVENESS. THE NINE, HE SAID, ARE AGREED ON THE POINTS

WITH WHICH THEY ARE CONCERNED AND THE METHOD TO BE EMPLOYED WITH REGARD TO CONTENT AS WELL AS MODALITIES OF THE CONVERSATION WITH THE USA.

3. VAN ELSLANDE SAID HE WAS STRUCK WHEN HE BECAME FOREIGN MINISTER BY THE FACT THAT THE NINE HAD A SINGLE VOICE VIS-A-VIS THE EAST IN NEGOTIATIONS ON DETENTE BUT NOT IN THAT WHICH CONCERNED INTERNAL QUESTIONS IN THE WEST. THUS HE SUPPORTED FOREIGN MINISTER THORN'S DEMAND FOR ONE EUROPEAN INTERLOCUTOR VIS-A-VIS THE US. THAT WHICH SEEMED THEN UNATTAINABLE HAS NOW BEEN ACHIEVED, HE SAID, AND THERE IS THUS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE DEADLINES ESTABLISHED AT THE SUMMIT IN PARIS WILL BE RESPECTED.

STRAUSZ-HUPE

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